

Burland Summer Home Complex, Outbuilding
(Capitolo-Rinetti Summer Home Complex, Outbuilding)
East Side of State Highway 84
Island Park Vicinity
Fremont County
Idaho

HABS No. ID-100-C

HABS

ID,

22-ILPA.V,

1-C-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Western Region
Department of Interior
San Francisco, California 94102

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING SURVEY

BURLAND SUMMER HOME COMPLEX,
OUTBUILDING

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Location:

The complex is located at Big Springs on the east side of State Highway 84 (Forest Service Road 59), 7 miles east of the intersection of State Highway 84 (Forest Road 59) and U.S. Highway 20 in the Island Park Vicinity, Fremont County, Idaho.

U.S.G.S. Island Park Quadrangle (7.5)
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates:
12.479800.4927200

Present Owner:

U.S. Forest Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
St. Anthony, Idaho 83445

Present Use:

Vacant. The cabins are planned for relocation within the Island Park area in June, 1988.

Statement of
Significance:

The Burland/Capitolo-Rinetti Summer Home Complex is architecturally and historically significant for its representation of the Rustic Cabin Style and its association with the development of one of Idaho's early recreation areas. Built in 1925 by William H. Burland, the complex was one of the first recreational residences in the Island Park region. The log cabins are constructed in the Rustic Style developed in nearby Yellowstone and other National Parks and used by early Idaho vacation homes.

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PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: The Burland Summer Home Complex was constructed in 1925 following the issuance of a summer home permit to William H. Burland by the Targhee National Forest.
2. Architect: Not known.
3. Original and subsequent owners: The original owner of the complex was William H. Burland, a St. Anthony, Idaho, merchant and early State game warden. Burland sold the buildings and transferred his special use permit to Francesco Capitolo and Cesare Rinetti in 1933 (2720 File Letter 12-22-33). The permit was then transferred to Milton Lee and Andrew Brennan in 1954 while ownership was retained by Capitolo and Rinetti. The permit was transferred to Andrew Brennan and Iolanda Rinetti Brennan in 1975 through a Quitclaim by Milton L. and Rosemary B. Lee in 1975 (Quitclaim Deed 11-30-74 Portland, Oregon).
4. Builder, contractor, suppliers: The builder of these structures is unknown. The logs used for construction are locally available lodgepole pine.
5. Original plans and construction: The Burland Summer Home Complex consists of two single-story log structures and a single occupancy log outbuilding. The logs are round and unhewn and connected by saddle notching. The log heads extend well beyond the corner timbers. The walls are chinked with a cement, lime and sand mixture on both the interior and exterior. A gable roof is supported by log purlins and pole rafters which are exposed on both the interior and exterior. The roof is covered in wood shingles.
6. Alterations and additions: After the complex was purchased by Capitolo and Rinetti in 1933, they engaged Johnny Sack, a noted craftsman, to make additions to both cabins. No alterations noted for the outbuilding.

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B. Historical Context:

Big Springs is a unique geological feature that is the source of one of the tributaries of Henry's Fork. It is listed on the National Registry of Natural Landmarks and has long been a spot of public interest in the region. Big Springs and the surrounding Island Park area were developed as vacation and summer home areas at the turn of the twentieth-century. One of the first summer home permits issued by the Targhee National Forest in this area was to William H. Burland. A St. Anthony, Idaho merchant, Burland obtained the permit in 1924 and built the cabins the following year. Also an early Idaho game warden, Burland used the site for his conservation work in the Island Park area.

The Burland cabins are representative of the development of one of Idaho's major recreation areas. The Rustic Style of architecture expressed in the Burland cabins was developed in nearby Yellowstone National Park and used extensively in Idaho for early vacation homes.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: The Burland cabins are representative of the Rustic Style of architecture developed in nearby Yellowstone National Park. This style was transplanted into eastern Idaho in the early twentieth-century within the context of recreation homes.
2. Condition of fabric: There is severe deterioration in the lower half of the walls of the outbuilding.

B. Description of Exterior:

Small log outbuilding, used as a toilet facility with one door opening on the north side which is no longer operable. The logs used for construction are locally available lodgepole pine. The logs are round and unhewn and connected by saddle notching. The log heads extend well beyond the corner timbers. The walls are chinked with a cement, lime and sand mixture on both the interior and exterior. A gable roof is supported by log purlins and pole rafters which are exposed on both the interior and exterior. The roof is covered in wood shingles.

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C. Description of Interior:

The only opening is a door located on the north side which is no longer operable.

D. Site:

1. General setting and orientation: The Burland Summer Home Complex is located on the toe of a steep slope overlooking Big Springs of Henry's Fork of the Snake River. The low linear profile of the cabins projects from the hillside with screened porches, elevated by concrete piers on the downslope side, facing west toward the spring. The eastern slope is covered in lodgepole pine forest and rises sharply above the site.

The complex is accessed by a narrow unimproved road that branches off of Forest Road 59 south of the springs. Big Springs is a unique geological feature that is the source of one of the tributaries of Henry's Fork. It has long been, and continues to be, a spot of public interest in the region.

2. Historic landscape design: The cabins are located on natural landscape and lack artificial designs.
3. Outbuildings: A small log outbuilding, used as a toilet facility, is located slightly upslope and between the two cabins. There is severe deterioration in the lower half of the walls. The only opening is a door located on the north side which is no longer operable (see photo ID-100-C-1).

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

D. Bibliography:

1. Primary and unpublished sources:

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Targhee National Forest.
File 2720 "Special Use Permits". Francesco Capitolo and Cesare Rinetti.
December 22, 1933.

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Targhee National Forest.
File 2720 "Special Use Permits". Andrew J. and Iolanda R. Brennan. July
4, 1954.

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Intermountain Region.
Preliminary Case Report, Removal, Burland/Rinetti-Capitolo Summer Home,
Island Park Vicinity, Targhee National Forest, Fremont County, Idaho.
Submitted to The Advisory Council on Historical Preservation. March 24,
1986.

Walters, Frederick L. and David A. Cooper. 1986. Conservation Assessment,
Burland/Rinetti-Capitolo Summer Home Complex, Big Springs, Idaho. For
Idaho State Historic Preservation Office.

2. Secondary and published sources:

Wilson, Mary. 1984. Log Cabin Studies. U.S. Department of Agriculture,
Forest Service, Intermountain Region, Ogden, Utah, Cultural Resources
Report No. 9.

PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

The cabins comprising the Burland/Capitolo-Rinetti Summer Home Complex will be relocated under the relocation stipulation of the Memorandum of Agreement among the USDA Forest Service, Idaho Historic Preservation Officer, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. The cabins were offered for acquisition and relocation to the public under competitive bid on October 1, 1987. Relocation is planned for June 1, 1988. The cabins will be relocated within the Big Springs Summer Home area on Lot No. 7, southeast and downstream of the present location.

The purpose of this removal dates to August 11, 1959 when Forest Supervisor Gordon Watts notified summer home permittees in the Big Springs area that eventual removal of those summer homes was planned in order to expand public recreational facilities and to make the area more available for general public use. This decision was supported in the June 25, 1979 Environmental Assessment of the Big Springs Recreation Composite Area which called for control of soil erosion and damage to riparian areas. In 1980, Big Springs was placed on the National Registry of Natural Landmarks which supported the previous objectives of dispersed recreation in a natural setting.

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Written documentation for the Burland/Capitolo-Rinetti Summer Home Complex was compiled by Charles G. Willingham, Archaeologist, Targhee National Forest, P.O. Box 208, 420 N. Bridge Street, St. Anthony, Idaho 83445. Photographic documentation was completed by Brian Brown, Western Photo, 343 Park Ave., Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401.